



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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Disaster Field Office

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FEMA-1491-DR-VA

Commonwealth Situation Report #42

Tuesday, December 30, 2003

1. Situation

Hurricane Isabel entered Virginia September 18 after making landfall along the North Carolina Outer Banks. The Commonwealth sustained winds near 100 mph and tropical storm winds for 29 hours. The hurricane produced storm surge of 5 to 8 feet along the coast and in the Chesapeake Bay with rainfall totals between 2 to 11 inches along its track. Damages due to wind, rain, and storm surge resulted in flooding, electrical outages, debris, transportation interruption, and damaged homes and businesses. At the height of the incident approximately 6,000 residents were housed in 134 shelters and curfews were imposed in many jurisdictions. Further damages occurred when a series of thunderstorms and tornados came through many of the designated areas in the southeast portion of Virginia on September 23. Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth on September 15, 2003. Governor Warner requested, and a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1491-DR-VA) was granted to Virginia on September 18, 2003. FEMA closed the incident period effective October 1, 2003. A total of 36 confirmed deaths to date. Effective December 21, the US Homeland Security advisory level and the Virginia threat advisory level were raised from yellow (elevated) to orange (high).

2. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives

- Closing of the Disaster Field Office in late January to mid-February 2004.
- Implement an external affairs strategy that will proactively manage public expectations through targeted media releases, appropriate staffing of public meetings, and support of all recovery program elements.
- Monitor and track debris removal from public property.
- Develop timelines for completion of program delivery.
 - Substantially complete the implementation of Human Services, Public Assistance and Mitigation programs by 12/19/03.
- Provide for health and safety of impacted citizens and recovery workers.
- Continue working with Hazard Mitigation Grant Program applicants.

3. Recovery Activities

A. Human Services:

i. Teleregistrations

- New teleregistrations since last reporting period amount to **36** for a total of **93,069** registrations at COB **12/29/03**.

- Although the registration period was terminated COB December 8. Individuals with extenuating circumstances can still register for FEMA assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the speech or hearing impaired. Lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ***Monday through Friday. The teleregistration line will be closed on Thursday, January 1.***

ii. **Small Business Administration** (as of COB 12/22/03)

	Issued	Received	#Approved	\$ Approved	Declined	Withdrawn	Pending
Home	52,303	6,858	2,468	\$52,914,200	3,223	836	331
Business	10,099	988	234	\$12,296,400	442	208	104
EIDL	0	1,036	146	\$2,958,600	63	734	93
TOTAL	62,402	8,882	2,848	\$68,169,200	3,728	1,778	528

iii. **Individuals and Households Program (IHP)**

1. **Housing**

- Temporary housing assistance approved to date – ***\$31,838,983.65***
- Residential destruction included 1,186 homes reported destroyed and 9,110 with major damage, 107,908 minor damage and those ‘affected.’ Losses are estimated at \$591,622,791.
- Of the 1,470 businesses involved, 77 are reported destroyed, 333 suffered major damage and 1,060 businesses suffered minor or casual damage. Estimated losses amount to \$84,143,356.

Travel Trailer Status as of 12/29/03

County	Approved	On Site	Occupied	Vacated
Gloucester	85	85	83	2
Hampton	2	2	2	
James City	1	1	1	
King & Queen	3	3	3	
Lancaster	1	1	1	
Mathews	8	8	8	
Middlesex	1	1	1	1
Northampton	1	1	0	
Poquoson	241	<i>241</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>19</i>
Prince George (Petersburg)	1	1	1	
Rockbridge	8	8	<i>7</i>	<i>1</i>
Suffolk	1	1	1	
York	11	<i>11</i>	9	
Total	364	<i>364</i>	357	<i>23</i>

2. Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

- Significant FEMA computer problems have adversely impacted processing of disaster claims. Some delays in assistance can be expected.

Amount referrals approved:	<i>\$18,288,416.30</i>
Amount referrals disbursed: (<i>as of 12/30/03</i>)	<i>\$17,987,759.82</i>
Total referrals received:	<i>43,017</i>
Total referrals approved:	<i>13,610</i>
Total referrals ineligible:	<i>22,914</i>
Total referrals withdrawn:	<i>1,375</i>
Total referrals pending:	<i>5,118</i>

iv. Disaster Unemployment Assistance (as of COB 12/19/03)

Total Claims Filed:	2,492
Approved:	2,316
Denied:	176
Amount Claims Disbursed:	\$584,384

v. Donations Coordination

- Calls as of COB ***12/29/03*** total ***2,533*** with ***1,829*** related to individual needs, ***639*** miscellaneous, ***69*** offers of donations and four calls from agencies with needs.
- Donations of goods, money and volunteer services can be made by calling the toll-free Donations Hotline at 1-877-245-5513.

vi. Hurricane Isabel Relief Fund.

- Fund total as of COB ***12/29/03*** ***\$29,016***

vii. Insurance Fraud Hotline

- A total of 36 communications (as of 12/22/03) have been received by Hotline, mail/fax and telephone by the Virginia State Police of suspected insurance fraud relative to Hurricane Isabel.

viii. Crisis Counseling Grant

- The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services has received approval of the extension for the Immediate Services Grant in the amount of \$261,310.29.

B. Infrastructure Services:

i. Public Assistance Program

- More than three weeks of significant FEMA computer downtime has greatly impacted processing of disaster claims. This backlog is not expected to be cleared until sometime in January.
- Has received ***288*** Requests for Public Assistance to date in the system. Work has been completed on 140 applicants (46%).
- Project worksheets total ***1,291 written out of 1,632 projected (79%), 869 obligated (67%) and 422*** under review for a total of ***\$86,438,522.01 obligated.***
- Completed 284 kick-off meetings.
- One Public Assistance team is in the field writing project worksheets.
- Grants were conveyed to ***22 jurisdictions*** during the past week as indicated by bold italics in ***Attachment 1.***

ii. Debris Management Liaison

- Met with Virginia Department of Marine Resources and officials of Surry County to evaluate debris remaining in the James River in that area; ***awaiting official response.***
- ***One team*** continues to evaluate tree damage in the Hampton area.
- ***FEMA and the Virginia Department Inland Game and Fisheries working on resolution of debris removal operations within designated eagle nesting areas.***
- Continues to provide technical assistance to applicants regarding their debris operations.

C. Mitigation

- Continuing work towards mailing out HMGP eligibility and application letters by January 5, 2004.
- Continuing contact and assistance with currently planning and applying regions and jurisdictions for Mitigation Plans.
- FEMA/NFIP Courses have now been set for the following locations. Lunches and snacks will be provided during all classes, and RSVP is required no later than two weeks prior to the course date. Reservations for the classes will be made on a first come, first served basis. Each session can hold up to 50 participants. See Attachment 2 for dates and locations.

D. Legislative Liaison:

- No outstanding issues at this time.

E. Public Affairs

- No new press releases issued this week.

F. Environmental and Hazardous Materials

- Assisting with debris management.

G. Disaster Recovery Task Forces

- i. State Coordinator for Local Disaster Recovery Task Forces (LDRTF)
 - Met with representatives in Isle of Wight on December 19 to reestablish a task force in Isle of Wight.
 - Attended the Northern Neck Local Recovery Task Force meeting on December 17.
 - Attend the Peninsula Local Recovery Task Force meeting in Hampton on December 17.

H. State Coordinating Officer

- ***A Deputy State Coordinating Officer will appear on Roanoke's WBRA TV on January 7 at 5:30 p.m.***

I. Resources

- o The DFO operations are supported daily by the Virginia Departments of:

Emergency Management	<i>11</i>
Transportation	<i>3</i>
Social Services	<i>24</i>
Conservation and Recreation	<i>0</i>
Fire Programs	<i>1</i>
Housing and Community Development	<i>0</i>
<u>Forestry</u>	<i>0</i>
Total (as of December 30, 2003)	<i>39</i>

J. Commonwealth Situation Reports

- Situation Reports are being prepared and distributed weekly on Tuesday.
- The Disaster Field Office operational hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Telephones are answered from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. ***The DFO will be closed on Thursday, January 1.***

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator

/s/ Harry E. Colestock III, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

Attachment 1

Public Assistance Grants Conveyed to Jurisdictions As of *December 30*

A & N Electric Coop
Accomack County
Alberta, Town
Albemarle County
Aldie Vol. Fire Dept.
Amelia County
Amherst County
Appomattox County
Appomattox, Town
Arlington County
Ashland, Town
Augusta County
Berryville, Town
Blackstone, Town
Boydton, Town
Bridgewater, Town
Brunswick County
Buckingham County
Campbell County
Cape Charles, Town
Capital Region Airport Authority
Central Virginia Electric Coop
Charles City County
Chesapeake City
Chesapeake Hospital Authority
Chesterfield County
Chincoteague, Town
Claremont, Town
Clarksville, Town
Colonial Beach, Town
Colonial Heights City
Community Electric Coop
Culpeper, Town
Cumberland County
Danville City
Dinwiddie County Water Authority
Dumfries, Town
Elkton, Town
Emporia City
Essex County
Fairfax City
Fairfax Co. Public Schools
Falls Church City
Farmville, Town
Fauquier County
Franklin City
Fredericksburg City
Front Royal, Town
Gloucester County
Goochland County

Gordonsville, Town
Greene County Public Schools
Greensville County
Grottoes, Town
Hampton City
Hanover County
Hanover County Public Schools
Harrisonburg City
Henrico County
Herndon, Town
Hopewell City
Isle of Wight County
James City County
Jamestown/Yorktown Foundation
Kenbridge, Town
King & Queen County
King George County
Lawrenceville, Town
Leesburg, Town
Loudoun County
Louisa County
Luray, Town
Lynchburg City
Madison County
Manassas City
Mathews County
Mathews County Electric Coop
Mathews, Town
McKenney, Town
Mecklenburg County
Mecklenberg Elec. Coop
Middleburg, Town
Middlesex County
Mt. Jackson, Town
New Kent County
Newport News City
Norfolk Airport Authority
Norfolk City
Northern Neck Elec. Coop
Northern Virginia Elec. Coop
Northampton County
Nottoway County
Onancock, Town
Onley, Town
Orange County
Orange, Town
Page County Public Schools
Pamunkey Indian Reservation
Pamunkey Regional Jail
Pathway Homes, Inc.

Petersburg City
Pittsylvania County
Poquoson City
Poquoson City Public Schools
Portsmouth City
Powhatan County
Prince Edward County
Prince George County
Prince George Elec. Coop.
Rapidan Service Authority
Rappahannock Electric Coop
Richmond City
Rockingham County
Science Museum of Virginia
Shenandoah County
Shenandoah, Town
Southampton County
South Boston, Town
South Hill, Town
Southside Electric Coop
Spotsylvania County
Stanley, Town
Staunton City
St. Joseph's Villa
Strasburg, Town
Suffolk City
Surry County
Sussex County
Sussex Service Authority
Tangier, Town
Tappanannock, Town
Urbanna, Town
Victoria, Town
Vienna, Town
Virginia Beach City
Virginia Dept of Conserv. & Rec
Virginia Dept of Emergency Mgmt
Virginia Dept of Health
Virginia Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Virginia Dept. of Rehab. Services
Virginia Dept of Transportation
Warrenton, Town
Warsaw, Town
Waynesboro City
Westmoreland County
West Point, Town
Williamsburg City
York County

Attachment 2

FEMA/NFIP Courses

FEMA/NFIP Courses have now been set for the following locations. Lunches and snacks will be provided during all classes, and RSVP is required no later than two weeks prior to the course date. Reservations for the classes will be made on a first come, first served basis. Each session can hold up to 50 participants.

Residential Coastal Construction: The course is designed to train participants on FEMA Coastal Construction Manual. The manual is primary, state-of-the-art reference for planning, designing and constructing residential structures in the various coastal environments. The target audience is engineer, architects and building code officials. Floodplain management, hazard mitigation, planning and building officials with building science knowledge may also find this course informative.

February 23 and 24 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.):
The Chincoteague Center
6155 Community Drive
Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

March 1 and 2 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.):
The Virginia Beach Pavilion Convention Center
1000 19th Street
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

March 15 and 16 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
James City County/Williamsburg Community Center
5301 Longhill Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Retrofitting Residential Floodprone Buildings: This course is designed to provide engineering and economic guidance on what constitutes proper retrofitting for floodprone residential structures. The course will focus on concepts of floodproofing, regulatory framework, controlling parameters, design practices, and benefit, cost and technical feasibility analysis. The audience comprises engineers and architects, building code, floodplain management, hazard mitigation, planning, zoning and public works officials. It is recommended that participants complete FEMA Independent Study Course IS-279 as a prerequisite.

March 22 and 23 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Holiday Inn Select Koger Center South
1021 Koger Center Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23235

March 24 and 25 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
2800 Shore Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

March 30 and 31 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
Holiday Inn Staunton - Golf and Convention Center
152 Fairway Lane (I-81, Exit 225)
Staunton, VA 24401

RSVP to Michelle Pope at (804) 290-8908 or (804) 897-6528 or mpope@vdem.state.va.us